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WHERE THE COUNTRY STANDS

It has been difficult for a long time to believe that the country was being faithfully represented by the great number of Congressmen and Senators, especially from the Middle West and South, who have opposed adequate preparedness measures, and have scouted the idea that this country under any conceivable circumstances might be involved in war.

Recently there have been some tests of sentiment in a few localities which have suggested that the country, or, at any rate, certain districts, have not been pleased with the anti-preparedness attitude. Three members of the House recently announced that they would not aspire to renomination, and they substantially agreed that it was because they could not conscientiously support the military program of the Administration. In the cases of at least two of them, reports from their districts declared that, in fact, their people were disposed to object to their attitude, and that their withdrawals were in exercise of that discretion which is sometimes, even in politics, the better part of valor.

From the North Carolina district of House Leader Kitchin comes now a circumstantial account of sentiment, which declares that Mr. Kitchin's constituents don't fancy his opposition to the preparedness measures of the Administration. Antagonism to Mr. Kitchin is being circulated, and the people are, in short, taking measures to insure that they shall not be misrepresented by their Congressman's votes.

We venture to guess that there will be a good many more cases of the sort by the time the voting is finished next November.

HALF-WAY LEGISLATION AT ANNAPOLIS

Recent reports from Annapolis indicate that an effort will be made in the crowded closing hours of this session of the Maryland legislature to force through a compromise measure practically eliminating Montgomery county from the proposed drainage area created by the pending sanitary bill.

This is a matter of vital importance not only to Maryland but to the District of Columbia as well.

The original bill created a drainage district in parts of Montgomery and Prince George counties adjacent to Washington and placed in the hands of a commission complete control over existing and contemplated water and sewer systems within such district.

The commission was also authorized to enter into arrangements with the District authorities for connection with the District sewers.

Because of opposition from Montgomery county, the sponsors of the measure propose to amend it as to limit the functions of the commission in that county to those of a study commission. The proposed amendments leave the commission's powers in Prince George county intact, however.

The result should be the killing of the bill.

The opposition to the measure cannot be met by any such method.

The opposition is to the form and not to the purpose of the bill. Every resident of Montgomery and Prince George is in sympathy with the general purpose of the legislation, which is to supply pure water and adequate sewerage facilities to both counties.

In effecting this purpose, however, it is essential that the project be handled as a unit, and that uniform action and development be had in each county. Political lines should be disregarded and topographical ones adhered to.

An attempt to pass the bill in its amended form would be like trying to build half a wheel or to construct half a ship.

In other words, it can't be done. Opponents of the measure assert not only that the views of the different communities were not ascertained in advance, but that the measure vests power in the commission which is unwarranted and unnecessary in view of the existing uncertainty both as to the authority, if any, which will be given by Congress to the District Commissioners to permit connection with the District sewers, and also the exact steps which will be taken by the commission for safeguarding the rights of Maryland municipalities in existing water and sewer systems.

Shortly after the bill was introduced, The Times said editorially:

It would seem that the proper procedure, at this time, would be to create a Joint State and Federal commission, to study exact conditions and requirements, and report on them, with recommendations as to the legislation needed both at An-

napolis and on Capitol Hill. It is in the nature of a necessary evil, but it should be brought about.

Subsequent developments have justified this statement. The mayor and council of Takoma Park, Md., the largest municipality in Montgomery county affected by the pending measure, unanimously adopted resolutions specifically endorsing such a commission, and opposing the pending bill.

A recent mass meeting at Takoma Park unanimously approved the action of the mayor and council.

All that should be attempted at this session of the legislature is legislation looking to the creation of an authoritative body to represent Maryland on such a joint commission.

FEDERAL AND STATE SALARIES

The recent discussion of the salaries and working hours of Government employees in the District of Columbia has compelled a revival of interest in this whole subject. The Borland amendment has been defeated; but the question whether Government people are fairly paid, overpaid, or underpaid; whether they work as many hours as they ought; whether they give value received for their pay—their are getting some special consideration as a result of the debate on the Borland proposal.

Up at Albany a committee of the New York senate has been for a year studying wages, working conditions, etc., of the civil service employees of the Empire State. It makes now a report that cannot fail to be of keen interest to civil service workers in Washington.

The average salary of New York government employees is declared to have been, in 1915, \$1,858.

The average salary of civil service workers in the District of Columbia, according to the most recent census bulletin on the subject, was \$1,072.

The average salary of the New York State civil service has been rising very fast in recent years. In 1911 it was \$1,473.

Average civil service salaries in Washington don't advance. There has been no revision of the salary schedule since 1853.

A comparison between the New York civil service salaries and those of the Federal Government must be made with some regard to the conditions of the two classes of workers. New York's civil service employees are scattered all over the State. Some live in cities, some in the country. On the average, New York State's employees doubtless live under conditions which make the expense of living considerably lower than in Washington. For example, a large proportion of them live in Albany, a town whose living costs undoubtedly are distinctly lower than those of Washington.

The most remarkable thing about this comparison is the very rapid rise, in a period of four years, of the wage rates of the New York State employees. An advance from \$1,473 to \$1,858 represents over 26 per cent increase. It may be doubted if this increase is out of proportion to the advance in living costs.

But there has been no increase at all for the Federal Government workers of comparable rank!

How would it do to have Congress make a general investigation of civil service salaries of Federal and State governments? And another, dealing with civil service employees of cities comparable to Washington?

Why has there never been a serious effort by Congress to make such a study of the conditions of its civil service, as this which New York State has made so painstakingly?

For two generations the civil service of the National Government has gone on under conditions, as to salary, which have been without change. Is there a State in the Union of which that could be said? We venture there is not; surely it would be illuminating to know the facts.

The body of civil service workers under the New York government is large enough to provide a very fair basis of comparison with the body of civil service workers in Washington. The showing is one that does small credit to either the liberality, the progressiveness, or the intelligence of the National Government.

ADVICE TO PHYSICIANS

The time is rapidly approaching, leaders of the medical profession believe, when, upon seeking the advice of one physician, we shall have the expert opinion of a half dozen specialists, including chemists, bacteriologists, neurologists and allied masters of the various ramifications of science. Some of them foresee a well-organized co-operation, with the old-fashioned "general practice"

tioner's gone to prescribe for the dodo.

Even the layman can foresee something of this. Medical science is making great strides—too great for any one man to keep up with all that is doing. Chemistry and physics play ever-increasing roles and each branch calls for a lifetime of study. And as scientists advance, so does the public.

Nowadays it is not enough that a physician shall cure acute illnesses; he is expected to warn us in childhood of tendencies and abnormalities that may lead in time to trouble. More, the profession is expected to warn whole communities of perils. The public work as carried on by health commissioners is recognized as of highest importance.

But, Dr. Haven Emerson warned the Harvard Medical Alumni Association, the physicians themselves are not, as a body, awake to the tendency of the times. "When universal and recorded autopsies exhibit the limits of medical capacity," he said, "once the public realizes the tremendous per cent of error in diagnosis, even under the best hospital conditions, it is to my mind a close question whether the medical profession will feel more humbled or the layman more alarmed."

"Co-operation is necessary for efficient service to the public. Will you wait until the state demands that you practice under her control or will you take the obvious course and meet the call with organization for diagnostic efficiency?"

Physician, heal thyself!

LITERACY TEST AGAIN

Behind the persistent bill which, however often it is killed, keeps coming up in Congress with the provision to exclude immigrants not able to read and write, is now the new argument that the war in Europe has proved the need of a restriction by the literacy test. It is argued that after the war we are going to be flooded with immigrants who have fled from the debts and poverty and misery caused in their countries by the war.

Well, we would better be flooded with foreign labor than with the cheap products of foreign labor. For all the willing workers of Europe that have come here we have always been able to find plenty to do—when we did not let pauper labor goods come into this country in unrestricted quantities to take the bread and butter out of the mouths of our own labor, our American labor, and all labor.

We have had the experience of learning that foreigners come here, take our American citizenship, raise children, and yet remain aliens, conspiring to injure this country for the benefit of their old country, inciting sedition against our Government, seeking to destroy American institutions with the purpose of re-enforcing alien institutions.

Are these agitators and propagandists the kind that can't read and write, or are they the men who come here with brains and education? Are these men going to be shut out by this new law? Not one of them.

A man can be well schooled and highly educated, can have all the graces of social and scholarly standards, and yet be a loafer, an adventurer, a dangerous scoundrel. A man can be the noblest work of God because he is honest, and not know how to write his own name.

We want honest men to come into this country when they know how to work and are willing to work and are going to raise good sons and daughters who will know how to read and write. We don't want scoundrels, adventurers, loafers, if they have taken all the degrees of the universities of Europe.

We want immigration laws that will keep out the scoundrels, adventurers, and loafers as surely as they will let in the honest men who would have their children born and raised where at least preliminary education is as free as air.

God help this nation when it opens wide its door to the scoundrel who is educated, but slams it in the face of a better man, by all the true standards of humanity, who never went to school!

Oh, well, let's start early, and avert the crash. Swat the musca domestica.

A Western railroad has an invention for "catching eggs on the fly." That's our idea of going to the source of the trouble.

There's no doubt that Villa's hat is in the ring. The chief drawback to the gayety of the thing is having to hunt for the ring.

As far as publicity is concerned, it's an inauspicious time for the Chinese to stage an upheaval.

Another atrocity: Oklahoma paper announces that "the meeting closed with sinking of Rule Britannia."

The punitive expedition, according to General Funston, is far too puny.

How about looking at a new lot in Fall's addition to New Mexico?

They say General Pershing is contemplating taking a villa in the section.

"Pollyanna" Charms at National; Belasco Again Greets "Only Girl"

President and Mrs. Wilson Are Among First-Nighters Who Applaud "The Glad Girl."

PATRICIA COLLINGS SCORES

Leading Woman Termed Ideal For the Role That Radiates Optimism and Joy.

A beautiful little play of gladness, radiating sunshine and undamped optimism, working alternately on the emotions of gladness and sadness with the former predominating at the end, such as the Pollyanna, Catherine Chisholm Cushing's dramatization of Eleanor H. Porter's "Glad Book," which is on the bill at the National this week.

The President and Mrs. Wilson were among the first nighters who applauded the play.

It is a play that alternately makes the lump come in the throat, causes the eyes to water with the emotions of sadness for the little orphan girl, portrayed by Patricia Collings, and before your mouchoir has gotten to the moisture you find yourself laughing heartily. When you're leaving the theater, you're all acting like Pollyanna.

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Gets Her Doll.

She surprises the "Ladies Aiders" by telling them that once when she was thirteen, for a doll to come to her in one of the boxes which came to the mission, and a crutch came. Her father told her that she should be glad that she did not have to use the crutch.

Four actors of experience—Miss Erfe Shannon, Herbert Kelcey, Miss Jessie Husley, and Arthur Forrest—are seen in the roles of the maiden aunt, the aunt's constant nurse, an Irish maid of excellent mood and the "fair king" from whose heart Pollyanna craves all bitterness. These artists by their finished characterizations contribute to the purpose of the production. Their work may be said to be of the same standard as that of Miss Collings in the leading role.

Master Bobby Tobin as an orphan of twelve, and Lorin Rakin as the same orphan five years later, give performances entirely within the spirit of the comedy.

It has remained for Barney Gerard to bring to the Gayety this week one of the most elaborate burlesque shows of the season.

The company bears the title of "Follies of the Day," and presents a two-act travesty entitled "The Dog," or "What Does the Public Want?" Theatrical managers, George M. Cohan, David Belasco, Oscar Hammerstein, Jr., and others, are among the stars of the show.

The fun is fast and furious, and two capacity houses yesterday seemed to have been packed to the rafters as much as they did that provided by David Belasco.

George P. Murphy, as the hot-dog man, have the leading comedy roles, and managed to extract many laughs out of the clever lines provided for them. Theatrical managers, George M. Cohan, David Belasco, Oscar Hammerstein, Jr., and others, are among the stars of the show.

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POLI PLAYERS SCORE IN MUSICAL COMEDY

Present "The Beauty Shop" With Pleasing-Chorus Rivaling New York Girls.

The Poli Players in musical comedy are the Poll Players at their best. "The Beauty Shop," this week's offering at the Pennsylvania avenue theater, can be taken as a criterion.

Those who think a musical production as pretentious as the one being presented by the popular stock players is a case of their trying to attempt too much should view the vehicle and be surprised.

That "The Beauty Shop" is the best thing the Poll Players have offered this season was the opinion of many who left the theater after last night's performance.

Written by Channing Pollock about the untold personal life of Raymond Hitchcock, it strikes the theater-goer at first as a role which A. H. Van Huren would find it almost impossible to portray—especially when one has seen the funny Hitchcock in the original cast and Mr. Van Huren in so many serious characters.

As the doctor's bookkeeper, Miss Rittenhouse is all that is required. Marjorie Starr is a hit as Lola, a Spanish dancer, J. Hammond Bailey, as the valet, is a serious characterization, and Ben Taggart was a typical musical comedy hater. Blanche Frederick, as a "kiss-me-belle" of comical, made as much as possible out of a small comedy role.

Success for the production is due largely to Harry Ruddy, who staged the vehicle, and directed the show from the orchestra pit. Andrian St. Perrin staged the musical numbers.

As the leading characters, the dancing and singing rivaling many of the New York choruses which visit the Capital from Broadway.

Keith's.

The current week in vaudeville as presented at Keith's is filled with good numbers, with dancing dominant in the majority of offerings.

As the headliner, Joan Sawyer, with an agile partner, dancing to the music of her own Parlatan Garden Orchestra, sustains the position of her place on the program.

She is a pleasing dancer and a personality that wins her audience. With her partner, she gives the new fox trot, Zuma, and the Sawyer one-step.

Electric Mop's operatic style appears in the number "The Girl Who Sings," with violin, harp, and piano accompaniment. Elaborate costumes and stage effects add to the elaborness of the stage picture.

Amata, Parlatan mirror and classic dancer, has an offering of artistic merit, in which many mirrors form a striking background for her and flower dances. William Gaxton and company repeat their former success of "A Regatta Business."

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Blossom-Herbert Musical Comedy Full of Dialogue That Sparkles With Humor

HAUNTING MELODY IN SONGS

Delightful Entertainment Concludes With Kim, a "Woman Hater," Marrying.

Dialogue that sparkles with humor, tinkling songs that wedge into one's musical mentality with sufficient force to be hummed and whistled, and a chorus that really wears clothes are high spots in the Blossom-Herbert musical comedy, "The Only Girl," which returned to the Belasco last night for the second engagement this season.

"The Only Girl" in its satirical attacks on the great human industry of marriage should furnish material for cynics until the crack of doom, if it were not for the delightful comedy situations that develop in the marital troubles of three young men of a quartet of chums.

Six weeks of floundering in the sea of matrimony without advance knowledge of the rocks and uncharted shoals, however, fail to convince the fourth in the quartet that connubial bliss is unknown, and the delightful entertainment concludes with Kim, a "woman hater," marrying.

The songs which emphasize the numerous situation brought about by the repeated fusing of the married chums of Kim are distinctly of the kind that go home with you.

"When You're Away," the melody of which runs all through the play, serves to introduce Kim, a librettist, and Wilson a composer. It is particularly tuneful and rich after Mr. Herbert's most agreeable style.

With "Tell It All Over Again," given by Miss Vivian Vessell with a charm of manner and clarity of tone that emphasized its sweetness, the theme song proved the musical feature.

"When Your Ankle Wears the Ball and Chain," sung by the suffering husbands, took third place in popularity, and "Personality" and "You Haven't Heard a Story to Make a Hit" served the lively Miss Leona Stephens in the subordinate role with opportunities to "get over" her apparent "nervousness."

Thurston Hall was an agreeable "Kim" to Miss Vivian Vessell's exuberant "Wilson." Richard Bartlett, Fred Prosser, and Ernest Torrence, the latter as the Scotch painter, were capable for makers and leys, Olga Rolter, and Miss Vessell were the nagging wives.

John Findlay, as the valet, gave an excellent characterization, and the melody master in the orchestra pit was Arthur Kautzenbach.

GARDEN.

A spectacle photoplay in which Thomas H. Ince has seized every opportunity for producing thrills in "Hell's Hinges," in which Mr. Ince presents W. H. Hart in a cowboy character again as the chief feature of the fore-week program at the Garden Theater.

The story of "Hell's Hinges" is incidental to the manner in which Ince has produced it. The spectacle of a fire in which hundreds of men and women participate with a grim, determined courage, as the hero, is used to bring the audience to the edge of its seats time and again.

Willie Collier in "Wife and Auto Trouble" in the Keystone feature of the program, which demonstrates Mr. Collier's ability to play his laugh-producing comedy with as Keystone an accent as any regular member of Mack Sennet's staff.

Tomorrow and Thursday, Lillian Blinn is to be presented with Elliott Dexter in the leading roles in "The Pirate." The play was produced under the supervision of L. W. Griffith. The sixth episode of the "Pirates" series, "The Pirate's Curse of Mary Page," also will be seen these days.

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HOME RANSACKED, SAID MRS. KENNETT

Second Entry of Premises Made, She Complains to Police Headquarters.

Mrs. Rose Kennett, of 338 Delaware avenue, has complained again to the police, alleging another entry of her premises.

Two weeks ago she charged that Mason L. Howes and J. E. Elliott, policemen, forced their way into her house without a warrant.

Today she lodged a formal complaint with the police. But someone whose identity she does not know, unlocked her front door with a duplicate key last Saturday, ransacked her dwelling, but left without taking anything.

Mrs. Kennett's first charge resulted in the issuance of warrants against the two policemen, charging unlawful entry, and their temporary suspension from the force, pending a disposal of the charge by the Police Court.

The case was set for Saturday, but a continuance having been granted, the case will come up tomorrow.

Mrs. Kennett says that the second intrusion, of which she now complains, occurred while she and her daughter were at school. She was awakened in the morning, she says that when she left her house to go to court she locked all doors.

When she returned, she declares, the door of her room which she left securely fastened, was open. Bureaus and closets, she says, were ransacked. Evidence of having been thoroughly searched.

On the floor, she tells the police, she found a piece of wire which she believes the intruder used to gain